

RECORD OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

- A. **Proposed Action:** Western proposes to conduct emergency erosion control work at the base of Structure 110/3 on the Parker Gila 161-kV Transmission Line (Figure 1). This work entails using a bulldozer to fill and compact rills and gullies, and blade the area to improve drainage. Locally available, on-site materials will be used. Crew trucks, bulldozers, graders, front-end loaders, and backhoes may be used. Existing access roads will be used to bring equipment and personnel to the work area. We plan to begin work on December 7, 2009 and complete work by February 7, 2010.

The project area occurs at the western end of the Gila Mountains, east of Yuma and north of Blaisdell, Yuma County, Arizona. The attached map shows the project area situated within portions of Sections 3, 9, & 10 in Township 8 South, Range 21 West on the Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian (Figure 2). Western's right-of-way crosses U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Yuma Field Office and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office lands. The corresponding U.S.G.S. 7.5-minute topographic map is Laguna Dam, Arizona.

- B. **Categorical Exclusion Applied:** 10 CFR, Part 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B, B1.3: "Routine maintenance activities and custodial services for buildings, structures, rights-of-ways, infrastructures (e.g., pathways, roads, and railroads), vehicle and equipment, and localized vegetation and pest control, during which operation may be suspended and resumed... Routine maintenance activities, corrective (that is repair), preventive, and predicted, are required to maintain and preserve buildings, structures, infrastructures, and equipment in a condition suitable for a facility to be used for its designated purpose. Routine maintenance may result in replacement to the extent that replacement is in kind and is not a substantial upgrade or improvement..."

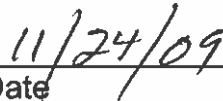
C. **Regulatory Requirements in 10 CFR 1021.410 (b):**

1. The proposed action fits within a class of actions that is listed in Appendix B to Subpart D.
 - a. The proposed action was reviewed for the requirements of the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Historic Preservation Act, and all applicable Department of Energy Orders.
 - b. The proposed action does not require the siting, construction, or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities.
 - c. The proposed action does not disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA-excluded petroleum and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled and unpermitted releases.

- d. The proposed action was reviewed and surveyed for impacts to cultural and sensitive biological resources. Cultural and sensitive biological resources have been determined to not be affected.
 2. There are no extraordinary circumstances related to the proposal that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
 3. The proposal is not "connected" to other actions with potentially significant impacts, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively significant impacts, and is not precluded by 40 CFR 1506.1 or 10 CFR 1021.211.
- D. **Determination:** Based on my review of information conveyed to me and in my possession (or attached) concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (as authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have determined that the proposed action fits within the specified class of actions, the other regulatory requirements set forth above are met, and the proposed action is hereby categorically excluded from further NEPA review.
- E. **Special Conditions:** none.



John R. Holt
NEPA Compliance Officer



Date

**Figure 1. Overview of Parker Gila 161-kV Transmission Line
Structure 110/3, facing east.**

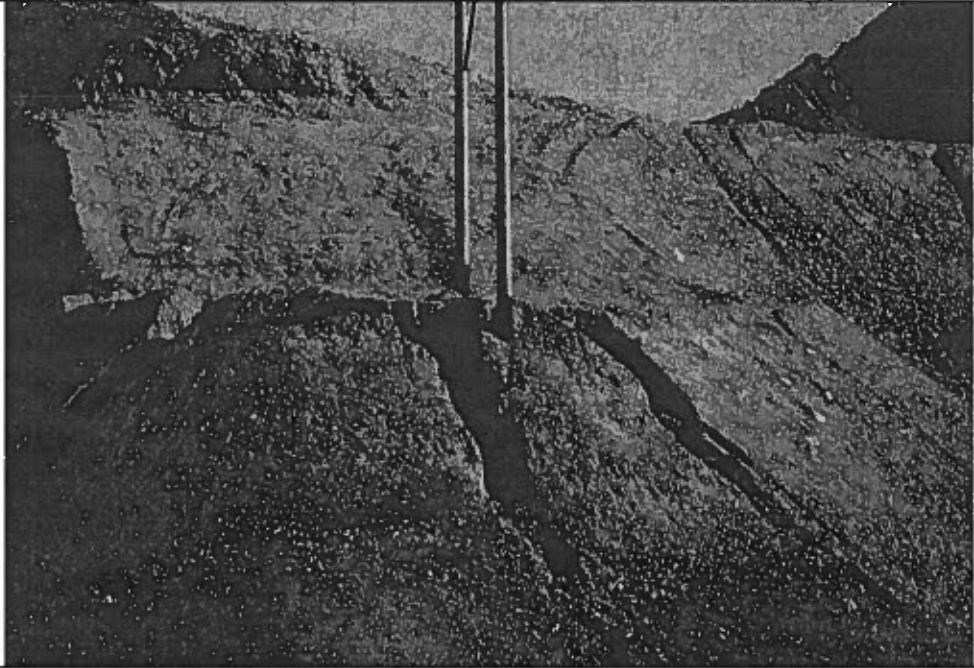
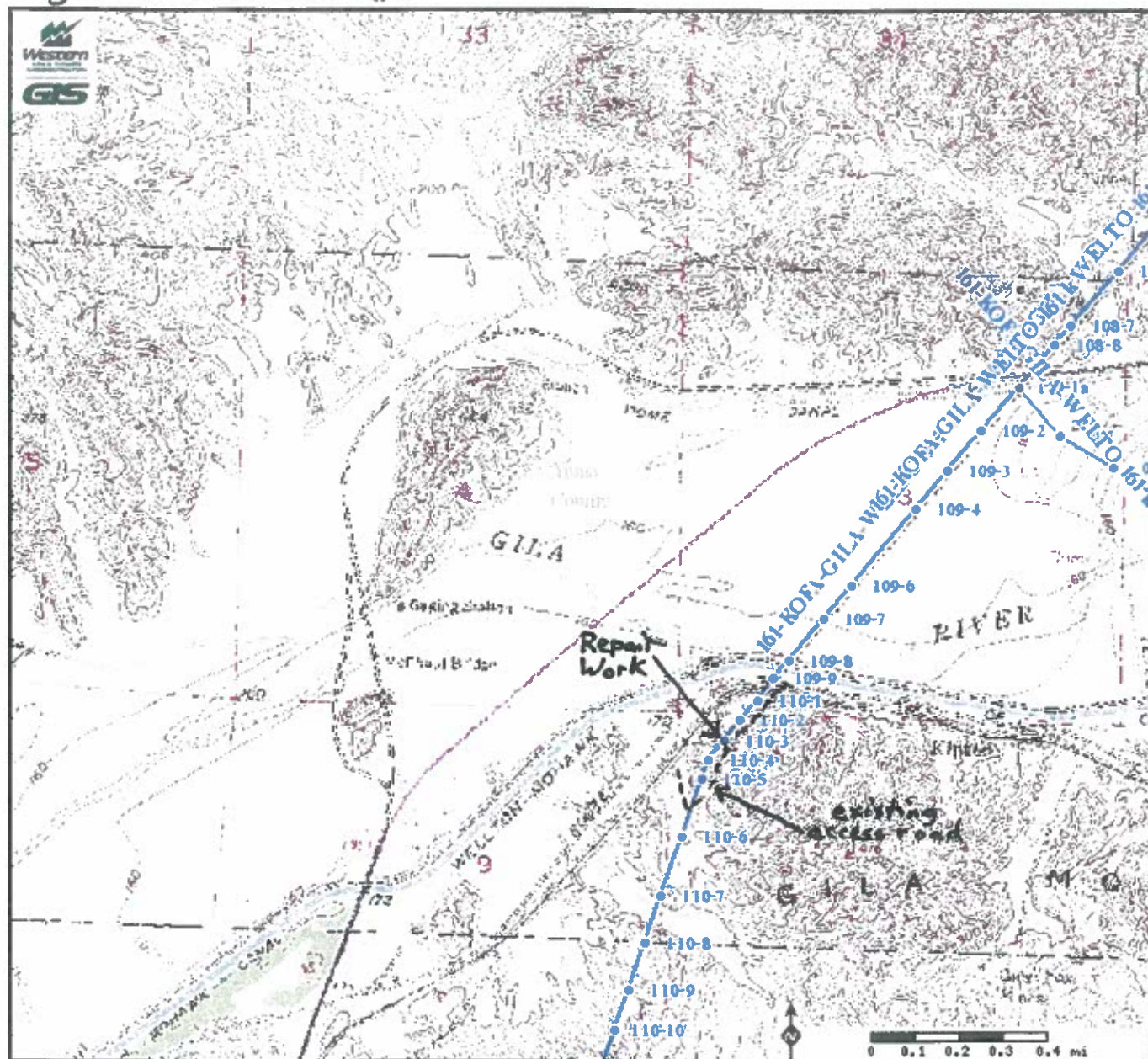


Figure 2. Overview Map. Desert Southwest Region



Legend

- Complete Structure
- Proposed and Re-route Structure
- Incomplete Structure
- Distribution Structure
- Complete T-Line
- Proposed or Re-route T-Line
- Incomplete T-Line
- Distribution Line
- Underground T-Line
- Facilities
- States
- Counties
- USGS 24K Topo-Quads

Map Parameters

UTM ZONE 12, NAD83

Scale 1:24,000

minx: 178050 maxx: 182329

miny: 3628581 maxy: 3631814

11/19/2009 9:14 A.M.

Western Area Power Administration
An agency of the U.S. Department of Energy

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To contact WAPA about this map, please call 1-800-336-7288.

